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Lawrence Clark Powell to Lecture At the Library of Congress

The noted librarian and bookman Lawrence Clark Powell will discuss his career and many of the books that have influenced him in a talk he has titled "Next to Mother's Milk . . . " on Tuesday, April 8. The lecture, to be held at 8 p.m. in the Mumford Room on the sixth floor of the Library's James Madison Memorial Building, is sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and is free and open to the public.

Born in Washington, D.C., in 1906, Lawrence Clark Powell grew up and made his professional career in southern California, notably at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he was successively university librarian and founding dean of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science. His formal education was obtained at Occidental College, the University of Dijon, and the University of California. He has twice held Guggenheim Fellowships, has received several honorary degrees, and is an honorary Life Member of the American Library Association. He has been president of the Bibliographical Society of America and is a member of the Grolier and Zamorano clubs. He has lectured throughout the United States and in Europe and the Orient, and has been a visiting professor at Columbia University, Wesleyan University, Simmons College, and Loughborough Technical College.

Throughout 50 years of writing he has produced books in belles lettres and bibliography, as well as the history, literature, and geography of the Southwest. In 1971 he went to the University of Arizona as consultant to the President on libraries and library education. A continuation of his autobiography *Life Goes On,* and his fourth novel, *Portrait of My Father,* will be published later this year. He and

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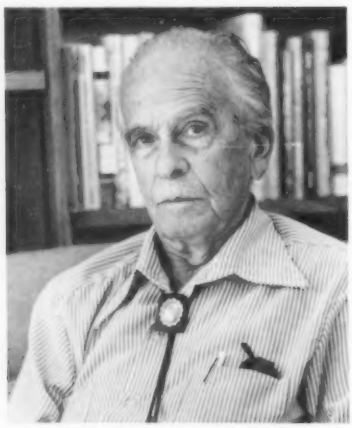

Lawrence Clark Powell. (Photo copyright Cynthia Farah.)

his wife Fay reside in Tucson where he holds the title of professor in residence emeritus at the University of Arizona.

Lawrence Clark Powell's talk is one in a series of lectures about books established at the Library of Congress by Mrs. Charles W. Engelhard in memory of her husband. The series is sponsored by the Center for the Book.

CDS Announces *Books in English*

Books in English, a bibliography produced by the British Library, is now available to customers in the United States through the Cataloging Distribution Service of the Library of Congress. *Books in English* contains cataloging records created by the Library of Congress and the British Library's Bibliographic Services Division for English language titles published throughout the world. It is published bimonthly in fully cumulating issues on 48x microfiche.

Subscriptions for 1986 are available from the Cataloging Distribution Service for $340. In addition, annual cumulations for 1981–1985 are available for $170 a year and a 10 year cumulated edition, covering the period 1970–1980, is available for $500. Those interested should contact the Customer Services Section, Cataloging Distribution Service, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20541; or call (202) 287–6100.

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Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin,* Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Bruce Tapper, Editor

Poets D. H. Melhem and Dudley Randall To Read at Library of Congress

D. H. Melhem

Poets D. H. Melhem and Dudley Randall will read from their works in the Library's Coolidge Auditorium on March 25. The 8 p.m. reading is sponsored by the Gertrude Clarke Whittall Poetry and Literature Fund. No tickets are required.

D. H. Melhem recently completed a long poem about the United States, *country,* and her critical study *Gwendolyn Brooks: Prophecy and Poetic Process* will be published next fall.

Dudley Randall, a native Washingtonian, is well known as a librarian, poet, and the founder of Broadstreet Press in Detroit.

March 17, 1986

STAFF NEWS

Online Users to Hear Update On Optical Disk Print Project

"An Update on the Optical Disk Print Project Retrieval System" is the topic of the next Online Users Group program to be held Wednesday, March 26, from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Mumford Room. The speakers will be Tamara Swora, print pilot operations manager in the Preservation Microfilming Office, and Jeff Griffith, assistant print pilot operations manager of the Office of Automated Information Services, Congressional Research Service.

Among the topics to be covered are the contents of the current database, the design of new files, retrieval approaches, public reaction, and the online questionnaire. Staff members wishing to attend this program need to obtain permission from their supervisors.

Free Cancer Screening Exams For District of Columbia Residents

A fast, painless, and free cancer screening program is being sponsored by the District of Columbia Division of the American Cancer Society. Several hospitals are participating in the program and will serve as screening examination centers.

The centers will offer screening examinations for colon and rectum, mouth and throat, prostate and testes, cervical, and breast cancer.

For more information about cancer screening examinations or the safeguards against cancers which can be prevented, detected, diagnosed, and cured call the American Cancer Society (202) 483-2600.

Next Talk in Health Forum Series Set for April 12

Cocaine is the topic of the next Health Forum Series talk from the Library's Health Services Office. On Tuesday, April 8, from 10 to 10:45 a.m. in the Mumford Room, nationally famous psychiatrist Robert L. DuPont, Jr., M.D., will make a presentation, "Cocaine," concluded by 15 minutes of questioning from the audience.

Dr. Dupont, a Harvard-educated physician with a specialty in psychiatry, is renowned for his work in drug abuse. He established the National Institute of Drug Abuse in the 1970s and has frequently appeared on television, including several times on the "Today Show."

Dr. DuPont is participating in the Health Forum Series through the sponsorship of AFSCME Union 2477. His presentation is also serving as the April session of the union's Bimonthly Seminar Series.

Online Users Learn About Serials—Location, Links, and Lists

The Online Users Group sponsored a program on January 30 titled "Serials Location, Links, and Lists." The program featured discussions on SERLOC, the CONSER Abstracting and Indexing Coverage Project, and the U.S. Newspaper Program.

Suanne Thamm, head, Processing and Reference Section, Serial Record Division, started off the program with a presentation on SERLOC (serials locations). A MUMS application, SERLOC is Phase 1 of the planned serials management system. It was developed to convert manually produced, basic core serials management data from the serial record file to machine-readable form. Currently the file consists of 55,000 active serial entries, letters A–H, in the visible file. Entries correspond to the Serial Record visible file hard cards without overriders; they are not bibliographic records and do not provide holdings data for serial titles.

Searching capabilities available to SERLOC users include FIND, PCRD, NCRD, ISSN, and PTK. After signing onto MUMS, the searcher keys "command + search data;file = serloc." Some difficulties arise when using the PTK search as the exact format of the Serial Record file entry must be known. A special search strategy using the numeric 245 for the visible file entry (VFE) field can be used when searching a specific entry beginning with such common words as "annual report" and "bulletin."

The inputting of records was done by an independent contractor. With the expiration of the contract, inputting halted. The Serial Record Division is exploring ways to continue expanding the SERLOC database, including an additional contract and the use of Library staff. Suanne Thamm asked that searchers finding errors in the file note them on the SERLOC Problem Report or on a printout of the problem record and send them to her or Bridgetta Jenkins, Serial Record Divsion, Room LM 519. A search manual, developed by Bridgetta Jenkins will soon be available and can be requested from the Serial Record Division.

(Continued on next page)

Online Users *(Continued from previous page)*

Julia Blixrud, project manager, Abstract and Indexing Coverage Project, then spoke on the CONSER Abstracting and Indexing (A&I) Coverage Project. The goal of the project, cosponsored by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and the National Federation of Abstracting and Information Services (NFAIS), is to provide a link between library catalogs and A&I service citations.

The project has several objectives. These include: identifying core journals, enhancing CONSER records with abstracting and indexing information, providing standardized bibliographic data, and developing a mechanism for the upkeep of the database. Eighty-five services, representing 135 abstracts and indexes in nearly all disciplines, are included. Fifty-four percent of the titles are foreign imprints, 42 percent U.S., and 4 percent Canadian. The project work has been accomplished by comparing titles on the A&I-supplied lists with records in the CONSER database. A note for the name of the index was entered in the 510 field whenever a match occurred. More than 130,000 index notes have been added to approximately 50,000 unique titles. Record enhancements in the 022 (ISSN), 210 (abbreviated key title), and 222 (key title) fields are also being made.

There will be many benefits of the project for many kinds of users. For the Library of Congress the benefits include: citation verification, identification of core titles, precision searching, and database cleanup.

The third topic of the meeting was the U.S. Newspaper Program (USNP), presented by Robert Harriman, technical coordinator, USNP. The USNP is a coordinated national effort to locate, catalog, and preserve newspapers published in the United States since the 17th century, and will involve some 300,000 titles. The program is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities with the Library of Congress providing technical management support and OCLC serving as the utility. The Library is also a repository participant.

Applications for planning and implementation projects are submitted by a single institution in each state. Implementation consists of bibliographic control and preservation microfilming. The first records were input in 1983. There are now 18 cataloging projects underway with four more to begin soon.

Access to USNP holdings and location information is through OCLC serials control system (available in the Serials Division). A searcher locates the title in MUMS and looks for CONSER "clues" in the 010 (LCCN) and 752 (note) fields. The title can then be checked in the OCLC serials control system. OCLC has also published a National Union List of Newspapers. The eight volumes contain bibliographic and holding information for some 25,000 titles.

—Melissa Betcher

Savings Bond Campaign To Be Launched Soon

The Library's annual U.S. Savings Bond Campaign is scheduled for late spring. Staff members will receive further information on the upcoming campaign in future LC *Information Bulletin* articles. The current rate for U.S. Savings Bonds is 8.36 percent, which is effective through April 30. For enrollment information, please contact the Payroll Preparation Unit at ext. 75190.

Frances V. Thackston Retires

Friends and co-workers in the Catalog Management and Publication Division hosted a special luncheon on December 16, 1985, to honor Frances V. Thackston, head of the National Union Catalog (NUC) Editorial Section I, on the occasion of her retirement. Miss Thackston was presented with a Christmas book and a paperweight, two items that she collects. She retired from the Library on January 3 after 17½ years of Federal service, all of which had been spent at the Library of Congress.

Miss Thackston's career at the Library of Congress began in 1968, when she joined the NUC Publication Project as an associate catalog editor in the Processing Department. In 1971, she was promoted to head the NUC Editorial Section, in the Catalog Publication Division, a position she held in that division and later in the Catalog Management and Publication Division until her retirement.

A native of Virginia, Miss Thackston received her A.B. degree *magna cum laude* from Duke University where she also had her first introduction to library science. While an undergraduate, she worked as a student assistant in the Duke University libraries during the school year and summers. After graduation and before deciding on a library career, she worked as a claims adjuster with a large insurance company, and then taught in North Carolina public schools for five years.

She subsequently earned an M.S. degree in library science from the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill. After completing her graduate coursework, she taught descriptive cataloging courses in the UNC library school and worked as a serials cataloger

for the Duke University libraries, where she was later named head of the serials department.

Before joining the Library of Congress, Miss Thackston worked for three years at the School of Library and Information Services at the University of Maryland in College Park. She was one of the first faculty members appointed to the school and divided her time between teaching cataloging courses and administering the development of the library school's library. Miss Thackston's immediate plans include moving back to Durham, N.C., and traveling.

Tufts University Confers Honorary Doctorate on The Librarian of Congress

Tufts University in Boston, Mass., conferred the degree of Doctor of Letters, *Honoris Causa,* on Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin, on the occasion of the dedication of the Arthur M. Sackler Center for Health Communications, on February 21. The citation read "Tufts University is proud to recognize your distinguished achievements" as "historian of the law, premier chronicler of America's history, Librarian to the nation."

Staff Activities

John Y. Cole, executive director of the Center for the Book, met on February 24 in Vancouver, British Columbia, with a planning committee that is seeking to establish a Canadian Centre for Studies in Publishing. It will be located at Simon Frazer University. On February 25, Dr. Cole presented a lecture about the Library of Congress at the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia.

Gary L. Fitzpatrick, senior reference librarian in the Geography and Map Division, and Marilyn J. Modlin of the Bureau of National Affairs, are co-authors of two reference books, *Direct-Line Distances: United States Edition* and *Direct-Line Distances: International Edition,* recently published by Scarecrow Press of Metuchen, N.J. Each edition consists primarily of a 275-page table giving distances between 1,001 cities and places around the world. The distances given are "geodesic" distances, the shortest line along the surface of a mathematically defined model of the world, and compensate for the ellipsoidal shape of the earth. The *United States Edition* includes 312 places, giving distances to the nearest mile, and a short table giving distances between extreme points of the United States. The *International Edition* has only 120 places from the United States, giving distances to the nearest kilometer. These volumes constitute basic reference sources for distance questions related to air travel, telecommunications, and strategic issues.

Lulie Maeshiro, secretary/bibliographic assistant of the Chinese and Korean Section, Asian Division, presented a paper on "Preservation and Analyses of the Painted Silk Funerary Banners (*Feiyi*) from the Han Tombs Nos. 1 and 3 at Mawangdui, Changsha, Hunan," during the February meeting of the Traditional Chinese Colloquium held at Georgetown University. Mrs. Maeshiro supplemented the paper with a slide presentation on related aspects of this unique archaelogical find, which was followed by a question-and-answer period. The meeting was attended by specialists in the field of Chinese studies from the metropolitan Washington area.

Marybeth Peters, policy planning advisor in the Copyright Office, visited Ottawa, Canada, during the fall as a member of the United States fact-finding group from the Interagency Working Group on Intellectual Property. Other members of the group included representatives from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce, the U.S. Department of State, and the Federal Communications Commission.

During its visit the group met first with Canadian government officials, then with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the Canadian Association of Broadcasters, the CTV Television Network Ltd. (Canada's only national, privately operated network), the Canadian Cable Television Association, the Task Force on Broadcasting, the Canadian Satellite Communication, Inc. (CANCOM), and Canadian attorneys who represent U.S. interests.

The group communicated its concerns about the lack of copyright protection for U.S. television programming when retransmitted in Canada under the proposed revisions of Canada's copyright law. However, a report from a Canadian parliamentary subcommittee on the revision of copyright has recommended such protection.

The fact-finding group met with the larger Interagency Working Group on October 29 to report its findings and to consider further handling of issues. The U.S. delegation asked that the Canadian government urge the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunication Commission to postpone considering further applications to expand licenses given to CANCOM—a satellite resale carrier that sells its signals to cable companies—until the U.S. and Canada have reached an agreement on the copyright issues.

Correction

A recent item in Staff News ("Staff Activities" in the February 17 issue of the LC *Information Bulletin)* about a biographical article on Verner W. Clapp gave the wrong dates for his tenure as Chief Assistant Librarian of Congress. They should have been 1947 to 1956.

Birth Announcement

Laurie and **Wilfred Lewis III** are the parents of a baby boy, Christopher Lloyd, born on February 28 at the Sibley Memorial Hospital in the District of Columbia. Mr. Lewis works in the Library's Federal Research Division; Mrs. Lewis works for the Dynamac Corporation in Rockville, Md.

Staff Carpool Locator

Established carpool from West Springfield, Va., (Orange Hunt Estates area), Old Keene Mill Rd., seeks new member to share driving. On flexitime schedule, approximately 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Contact Nikki Adams, ext. 75263.

Ron Cogan, Subject Cataloging Division, ext. 75791, is seeking individuals to form a carpool from the vicinity of Edsal Road/Landmark area. He is on a compflex schedule, 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; choice of day off is flexible.

Established carpool from McLean/North Arlington seeks a nonsmoking driver or rider. Its members' working hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact Nancy Jones, ext. 76012.

Victoria Miklos-Vego, Copyright Examining, ext. 78270, is seeking additional rider/drivers to join a carpool from the Shirlington Seminary area of Northern Virginia. She is currently on an 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. flexible schedule but this is negotiable.

Wayne Symonds, Subject Cataloging Division, ext. 75899, would like to join a carpool coming from Arlington Blvd. (Route 50) and Fillmore St. in Arlington, or from Rosslyn Station beginning April 1. Hours are flexible.

Personnel Changes

Appointments: Mary V. Ahern, acquisitions specialist, GS-13, M/B/RS, 50527; Loche A. McLean, librarian, GS-13, CDS, 50569; Paul D. Wright, computer operator, GS-5, CSC, 50610.

Reappointments: Donald F. Jay, field director—Cairo, GS-15, Ov Op, 50134; Geraldine Nelson, library aid, GS-2, CRS.

Resignations: Crystal J. Canty, Col Mgmt; Anne Marie Dephenich, WPO; Cheryl D. Dempsey, Music; Tina M.B. Douglas, Desc Cat; Frances L. Feldman, FRD; Oliva D. Glover, Pers; Karen M. Greber, AL/NP; Joanne Ham, Rec & Proc; Pauline C. Herbert, Col Mgmt; Robert N. Hough Jr., Col Mgmt; Deborah C. Jackson, CRS; John A. Jackson, FRD; Vivian L. Joyner, Col Mgmt; William R. McColl, LSSO; Jacquelyn Peace, Inf; Susan A. Robinson, Cop; Paula M. Saunders, CRS; Eileen P. Scully, FRD; Kenya D. Sims, FED/LINK; Theodore W. Travis, Cop; Linda Sue Tsagos, Res; Dorothy J. Wilkes, LERO.

Engineering Problems Experienced At Deacidification Test Facility

In cooperation with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and Northrop Services, Inc., the Library of Congress has been operating a small-scale prototype facility for the deacidification of books using diethyl zinc (DEZ) at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Prince Georges County, Md. This facility was constructed to provide the technical information needed for procurement specification and for support plant start-up operations of a Mass Deacidification Facility to be constructed at Fort Detrick, Md., authorized by Public Law 98-427 in 1984.

This small-scale test facility located at Goddard was recently damaged by fire and necessary clean-up procedures following the fire. Designed for testing new engineering concepts, chemical process equipment, materials, and for developing operating procedures to be used on a large scale, the facility is temporarily inoperable. The status of the Library's deacidification project was reported to the House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, at hearings on Thursday, February 23, outlining progress on the total project and telling as much as was known at the time about the two incidents at the test facility.

Early in December during testing in an empty chamber of the facility's chemical subsystem, a quantity of DEZ gas apparently condensed to its liquid state and collected on the floor of the vacuum chamber. The presence of liquid DEZ in the chamber was not detected because a procedure for checking temperature data monitors had not been stipulated at this point in the process. When water was introduced into the chamber subsequently, pressure increased to atmospheric, the door opened slightly, and approximately one quart of liquid DEZ spilled out of the chamber onto the floor. Since DEZ in its liquid state ignites spontaneously, a small flash fire occurred. The fire, which immediately activated the fire control system, lasted five to eight seconds, and caused minor damage to wiring and surface paint.

During normal operation, neither DEZ liquid nor gas is left in the chemical delivery system piping. However, because the system was shut down by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in mid-operation pending review and assessment of the fire, both DEZ gas and liquid were left in the piping for about two months. When cleanup began in early February, a second problem occurred when a vibration reduction bellows on one of the lines ruptured during purging of the lines. DEZ was again exposed to air, with the result that another fire occurred. For yet unexplained reasons, the liquid DEZ in the lines appears to have decomposed in the interim to zinc oxide and pressurized ethane gas. Because of the presence of the pressurized ethane gas, the February fire was accompanied by a small explosion. The vacuum chamber was not damaged but some piping, a line pump, and building walls were damaged. There were no injuries in either incident and there were no books in the chamber. It is not now known exactly how much, or why, decomposition of the liquid DEZ occurred in the piping. This test facility has given the Library considerable information on what was right as well as pointing out design and procedural deficiencies which must be addressed and solved in the final design for the chemical delivery system and in the safe operation of a full-scale facility. The preconceived plan and purpose for operating the test facility was, of course, to identify weak areas now to avoid larger problems later in the plant facility. The Library's Preservation Office is now looking at ways to proceed in dealing with the chemical delivery system to insure safe operation. This will involve careful review and redesign as needed, system testing, and integration of the findings into the scheduled completion of the project within a time frame close to the original one of 1988.

Because the experimental test site system was not designed to vent pressure or to empty the additional DEZ from the lines back into the chemical storage tank outside the building, NASA engineers concluded that the lines in the system containing ethane gas and diethyl zinc must be cut remotely for reasons of safety. On Friday, February 21, the line cutting charges were set off opening the pipes. Liquid diethyl zinc in the lines spilled out and burned for about 30 seconds and the wood structure burned for about one hour, causing considerable damage to the temporary building frame, walls, and roof that was over the chemical delivery section of the test facility. Actual damage to the equipment in the rear part of the building cannot be assessed at this time. Damage was largely confined to the chemical delivery area of the test facility. The chamber room and control room are still intact and equipment in these areas is usable. The main building structure is being used for further investigation of the incident. The test facility is, as has been said, inoperable. It is estimated that redesign and reconstruction will take 10-12 months. The Library is currently evaluating the impact of these events on the construction of the Mass Deacidification Facility at Fort Detrick and gathering as much information as possible to make prudent decisions for moving forward.

A team of chemical process engineers experienced in DEZ handling, vacuum systems, and plant safety has been assembled to reexamine the design for the entire large-scale facility. Pending receipt of their recommendations within the next two months, the Army Corps of Engineers, which will direct the construction of the building, has been instructed to delay for one month opening the bids for the building and may delay acceptance of the bids for an additional 60 days.

Meetings and Events Around the Library

Thursday, March 20

☐"To Hear a Hand," program on folklore and culture of the deaf. American Folklife Center. Whittall Pavilion, 12 noon.

☐"Online Access," FLICC seminar. For information, call (202) 289-7448.

☐Support Group for Active Scholars. LC Professional Association. Room LM 642, 12:10 p.m. **For members and staff.**

Friday, March 21

☐Vienna String Sextet. Coolidge Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 22

☐"Music from Marlboro." Coolidge Auditorium, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 25

☐"In the Path of Margaret Mead: My Trip to Bali," Mary Wolfskill, Manuscript Division. Special Interest Group on American Studies/Special Collections. LC Professional Association. Room LM 642, 12:10 p.m. **For members and staff.**

Thursday, March 27

☐Discussion on the Histories of Herodotus, Harry Barnes, Congressional Research Service. Great Books Study Group. LC Professional Association. Room LM 642, 12:10 p.m. **For members and staff.**

Friday, March 28

☐Juilliard String Quartet. Coolidge Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, April 1

☐"The Hispanic Acquisition Program," Peter de la Garza, Exchange and Gift Division. Special Interest Group on Library Science, LC Professional Association. Room LM 642, 12:10 p.m. **For members and staff.**

Events are open to the public unless otherwise specified.

Federal Library Resources Institute To Be Held in Washington

The fourteenth annual Institute on Federal Library Resources, sponsored by the School of Library and Information Science, The Catholic University of America, will be held in Washington, D.C., July 21–August 1.

Frank Kurt Cylke, the academic director of the institute and director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, announced that the curriculum will (1) identify the role of the Federal libraries, information centers, and data banks in the Federal library community; (2) discuss the implication of the posture of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science towards Federal libraries; (3) identify resources, publications, and specialized services provided by Federal libraries; (4) identify resources available through major government clearinghouses, such as National Technical Information Service (NTIS), Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC), and Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC); (5) compare the in-operation or the in-process development of the major Federal library and information services; discuss the implications for libraries of the existing satellite technology; and (6) identify and articulate the functions performed by the Federal Library and Information Center Committee.

Participants will be addressed by 25 directors of Federal information programs and several membership association representatives.

Information regarding the institute may be obtained by contacting the School of Library and Information Science, the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC 20064.

Correction

On the back page calendar of the LC *Information Bulletin* of March 10, the date for the American Folklife Center program on folklife of the deaf was incorrectly given as March 27. The date should have been March 20.

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